Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus comprising:

input means for loading ~~an~~ a detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and ~~an~~ a comparable electronic document ~~to be compared~~; ~~and~~

means for extracting important parts from the detected electronic document and the comparable electronic document;

significant updating detection means for detecting a difference between contents of an important part of the input detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and contents of an important part of the input comparable electronic document ~~to be compared,~~ said significant updating means including means for checking whether contents of the detected difference are significant; and

output means for one of displaying or notifying a user of the detected difference of significantly updated contents.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for extracting important parts is part of the significant updating detection means, which comprises a pre-process section for extracting important parts from the detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the comparable electronic document ~~to be compared,~~ and a difference extraction section for performing difference extraction to a result extracted by the pre-process section.

Claim 3 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus

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according to claim 2, wherein the pre-process section determines the important parts by checking whether the important parts include a predetermined keyword or not.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the significant updating detection means comprises a difference extraction section for extracting a difference between the detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the comparable electronic document ~~to be compared~~, and a value determination section for determining whether the extracted difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 5 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the value determination section determines whether the difference is a significant difference or not by using attribute determination or the like performed by natural language processing such as morphological analysis.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for extracting important parts is part of the significant updating detection means, which comprises a pre-process section for extracting important parts from the detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the comparable electronic document ~~to be compared~~, a difference extraction section for extracting a difference between the results extracted by the pre-process sections, and a value determination section for determining whether the extracted difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 7 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the pre-process section determines the important parts by checking whether the important parts include a predetermined keyword or not.

Claim 8 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the value determination section determines whether a difference is a significant difference or not by using attribute determination or the like performed by natural language processing such as morphological analysis.

Claim 9 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the output means ~~for notifying~~ notifies an external information processing apparatus of a detection result of the significant updating detection means.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection method comprising:

the an input step of loading ~~an~~ a detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and ~~an~~ comparable electronic document ~~to be compared~~; ~~and~~

an extracting step for extracting important parts from the detected electronic document and the comparable electronic document;

the ~~the~~ a significant updating detection step of detecting a difference between

contents of an important part of the input detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and

contents of an important part of the input comparable electronic document ~~to be~~

~~compared,~~ the significant updating detection step including checking whether contents of

the detected difference are significant; and

an output step of displaying or notifying a user of the detected difference of

significantly updated contents.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection

method according to claim 10, wherein the extracting step is part of the significant

updating detection step, which comprises a pre-process for extracting important parts

from the detected electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the comparable electronic

document ~~to be compared,~~ and a difference extraction process for performing difference

extraction to a result extracted by the pre-process.

Claim 12 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection method

according to claim 11, wherein, in the pre-process, the important parts are determined by

checking whether the important parts include a predetermined keyword or not.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection

method according to claim 10, wherein the significant updating detection step further

comprises a difference extraction process for extracting a difference between the detected

electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the comparable electronic document ~~to be~~

~~compared,~~ and a value determination process for determining whether the extracted difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 14 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 13, wherein, in the value determination process, it is determined by using attribute determination or the like performed by natural language processing such as morphological analysis whether the difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 10, wherein <u>the extracting step is part of</u> the significant updating detection step<u>, which</u> comprises a pre-process for extracting important parts from the <u>detected</u> electronic document ~~to be detected~~ and the <u>comparable</u> electronic document ~~to be compared,~~ a difference extraction process for extracting a difference between the results extracted by the pre-process sections, and a value determination process for determining whether the extracted difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 16 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 15, wherein, in the pre-process the important parts are determined by checking whether the important parts include a predetermined keyword or not.

Claim 17 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 15, wherein, in the value determination process, it is determined by using attribute determination or the like performed by natural language processing such

as morphological analysis whether a difference is a significant difference or not.

Claim 18 (Original): An electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 10, further comprising an output process for notifying an external information processing apparatus of a detection result in the significant updating detection step.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An electronic document significant updating detection program, wherein the respective steps of the electronic document significant updating detection method according to claim 10 are described in a code which ~~can be~~ is processable ~~processed~~ by a computer.

Claim 20 (Original): A recording medium wherein the electronic document significant updating detection program according to claim 19 is recorded on the recording medium.